

\*----- ST REPORT INTERNATIONAL ONLINE MAGAZINE -----\*  
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"

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> 09/04/92 STR 836 "The Original \* Independent \* Online Magazine!"  
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ST REPORT INTERNATIONAL ONLINE MAGAZINE  
The Original \* Independent \* Online Magazine  
-\* FEATURING WEEKLY \*-

"Accurate UP-TO-DATE News and Information"  
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Hardware - Software - Corporate - R & D - Imports

STReport's BBS, The Bounty, invites BBS systems, worldwide, to participate in the Fido/TurboNet/Atari F-Net Mail Network. You may also call our BBS direct at 904-786-4176, and enjoy the excitement of exchanging information relative to the Atari and other computers worldwide through the use of excellent International Messaging Networks. SysOps, worldwide, are quite

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WHAT'S NEW IN THE ATARI FORUMS (September 4)

BILL REHBOCK IN CONFERENCE!  
PARTICIPATE AT 50% OFF NORMAL CONNECT-TIME RATES

The Atari Forums are pleased to announce an online conference with Bill Rehbock, head of development for Atari's new 68030-based Falcon computer on Tuesday, 8-Sept-92 at 8:30 p.m. EST (1.30 GMT).

Rehbock will discuss technical specifications of the Falcon and the new MultiTOS (multitasking) operating system that will premiere with the new machine. The computer debuted at a recent computer fair in Dusseldorf, Germany.

Members can join the conference for a special price of 50 percent off the normal connect time rates. To access the Convention Center, GO CONVENTION.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM ATARI

Please see message # 33937 in the Atari Arts Forum (GO ATARIARTS) for an announcement from Bill Rehbock concerning a FALCON030 offer and Fall Comdex registration information.  
FALCON030 VIDEO MODE DESCRIPTIONS

John Townsend of Atari Corp. has put together a file that describes in detail the various video modes available on the FALCON030 computer. Be sure to download VIDMOD.TXT from LIBRARY 8 of the Atari Productivity Forum (GO ATARIPRO) to read this comprehensive explanation.

#### ATARI 8-BIT FORUM UPDATE

CURRENT NOTES is looking for 8-bit articles. Now's your chance! See message #20444 in the Atari 8-Bit Forum (GO ATARI8) for details.

STReport is now available in ARC format, for those who've wanted to read it, but are unable to access LZH files. BRO STR\*.ARC in LIBRARY 7 of the Atari 8-Bit Forum (GO ATARI8)

THE ATARI PORTFOLIO FORUM ON COMPUSERVE  
HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AN  
OFFICIAL SUPPORT SITE BY ATARI CORPORATION

"GO APORTFOLIO TO ACCESS THE ATARI PORTFOLIO FORUM"

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> From the Editor's Desk                      "Saying it like it is!"  
     "\*\*\*\*\*"

The Labor Day weekend, heralding the end of summer and the new school year. Some folks are overjoyed its this time of year and others are not so happy.. right moms? I any case enjoy this last weekend of the summer season and do enjoy those BBQs.

The Falcon is a reality now although certain aspects of are changed, its cabinet will be the familiar grey we know and the keys will be a darker grey with white markings. Like most of you I hope this is the "stroke" Atari has needed for quite a while. A great deal is riding on the Falcon and it is a design that can, if supplied in enough quantity and promoted properly, bring Atari back to the forefront with gusto.

This week, I overjoyed to be able to help you slake your curiosity thirst over the "STORM" warning we have been carrying here week after week. In this issue is the whole lowdown on STORM.

Somehow, I've managed to catch a dilly of a head/chest cold. I sound like an old steam locomotive trying to get up to speed. I don't wish it on anyone out there so.... keep your powder dry and your head high. Hmmm that didn't sound quite right. Ahhh it must be the Actifed Plus I'm taking. Have a great holiday weekend!

Ralph @ STReport International Online Magazine

THE STORM IS ON THE HORIZON!

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STReport's Staff                      DEDICATED TO SERVING YOU!  
     "\*\*\*\*\*"

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

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Please, submit letters to the editor, articles, reviews, etc...  
via E-Mail to:

Compuserve..... 70007,4454

Delphi..... RMARIANO

BIX..... RMARIANO

FIDONET..... 112/35

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"There is no comparison! The Atari Falcon  
is far superior to the PC platform."

Sam Tramiel, 08/92

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> CPU STATUS REPORT

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LATE BREAKING INDUSTRY-WIDE NEWS

Issue #36

Compiled by: Lloyd E. Pulley, Sr.

-- Atari Corp. Sales Down Over 50% in Second Quarter --

## Loses \$39.8 Million

Atari Corporation reported that sales for the second quarter were \$23.3 million, compared to \$49.2 million for the same period in 1991. At the same time, Atari reported an operating loss of \$39.8 million compared to a \$30.4 million gain for the same period in 1991.

As part of the \$39.8 million loss, the company has included charges of \$34.1 million in operating income (loss) in the second quarter 1992. In the second quarter of 1991, the company reported income of \$30.4 million which included the gain on the sale of its Taiwan facility of \$40.9 million.

## -- IBM Creates PC Unit

IBM announced the creation of a separate organization for its struggling personal computer operation, a move to speed up the introduction of new models at more competitive prices. The company's PC manufacturing, design, distribution and marketing operations worldwide will be placed under an operating unit called the IBM Personal Computer Co.

## -- IBM, Canon may Share Venture

IBM and Canon have agreed to cooperate in developing small computers and will begin selling their first product next year, a Canon spokesman said this week. A spokesman for IBM denies that any formal decision has been made.

## -- Compaq Offers New Laser Printers

Compaq Computer Corp. has introduced the first two products from its new peripherals division. They are two network laser printers, the \$5,499 20-page-per-minute (ppm) Compaq Pagemarq 20 and the \$3,999 15 ppm Compaq PageMarq 15. Reports say the units use printer languages PostScript Level Two and PCL 5, and can switch automatically between them without any user intervention.

The company says the Pagemarq 20 is the world's fastest all-around desktop printer, twice as fast on average than Hewlett-Packard Co.'s LaserJet IIISi with PostScript applications. It said the Pagemarq 15 is on average 50% faster than the Hewlett printer.

Both printers connect to Novell Inc. and Apple Computer Inc. networks, and up to five interfaces can be active at the same time. Compaq says direct connectivity is supported through Ethernet, Token Ring and Apple-Talk interfaces without the need for a print server, which conserves system costs and eliminates support requirements.

## -- Toshiba to Develop New Rechargeable Batteries

Toshiba Corp. is teaming up with Asahi Chemical Industry Co. to develop a new generation of rechargeable batteries.

The two companies will form a joint venture firm to develop and manufacture lithium ion batteries, which have about twice the power capacity of current nickel cadmium batteries.

The new company, A and T Battery Corp., will begin production in October 1993 and produce 500,000 batteries a month.

#### -- SPA Says Software Sales Up 20.4%

According to a recent statement from the Software Publishers Association (SPA), North American application software sales for the second quarter 1992 increased 20.4%, reaching an estimated \$1.49 billion (retail).

For the first half of the year, North American sales reached \$2.74 billion, an increase of 20.1% over the first half of 1991. Combined North American and international sales were up 19.7% for the quarter.

After a 51% growth rate in the first quarter, Macintosh applications growth tapered off, increasing 18.6 percent to \$271 million.

Spreadsheets displaced word processors as the largest application category. Sales of spreadsheets reached \$236 million, an increase of 29% from the second quarter 1991, while word processor sales were \$188 million, an increase of 13%.

Disk-based entertainment software sales grew 56.7%, reaching \$58 million.

Drawing and painting program sales were also strong with sales of \$61 million, a 48.1% rise from second quarter of 1991.

#### -- Alleged Southern California Pirate Nabbed

U.S. Marshals in conjunction with Microsoft Corp. have seized 2,000 allegedly counterfeit copies of Microsoft software at Number One International Inc., a software distributor in South El Monte, Calif.

Microsoft says it has filed a lawsuit against Number One and its president, Randy Wang, alleging trademark and copyright infringement. It notes that seized business records indicate that Number One may have sold more than 20,000 counterfeit packages of the MS-DOS and Microsoft Windows operating systems during 1992.

The raid on Number One yielded purportedly bogus copies of MS-DOS operating system versions 3.3 and 4.01, in packaging which has been out of production since late 1989, in addition to the current MS-DOS version 5.0 and Microsoft Windows 3.1 operating system software.

Microsoft says the packages were illegitimate copies of Microsoft software manufactured by five different Microsoft original equipment manufacturer licensees.

In addition to substantial civil damages, Randy Wang could face penalties up to \$250,000 and a prison term of up to five years if criminally prosecuted.

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> ONLINE WEEKLY STReport OnLine  
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The wires are a hummin'!

PEOPLE... ARE TALKING  
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## On CompuServe

compiled by Joe Mirando

From The Atari Productivity Forum  
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Well, the big news on CompuServe this week is that Bill Rehbock of Atari Corp. hold a conference on Tuesday, September 8. This will be a "must attend" conference. Sysop Ron Luks posts:

"I'm ple0ased to announce that Bill Rehbock, director of application software and Falcon development, will be online in CompuServe's Electronic Convention Center (GO CONVENTION) on Tuesday, September 8, 1992.

The conference will focus on the hardware specs of the new FALCON 030 and the MultiTOS operating system. We expect this session will be of interest to developers, techies, and all prospective Falcon owners.

A special reduced pricing structure will be in effect for this special event. More details to follow."

From the "what will they think of next department, Dragonware Software announces a new freeware product:

"PowerDOS, from Dragonware Software (the LAN folks), is a freeware replacement for your TOS file routines. It includes routines which are rough equivalents to FATSPEED, PINHEAD, CACHExxx, and FOLDERxxx.

GEMDOS-equivalent routines are written entirely in assembly language, for the greatest possible speed increase.

PowerDOS also includes multitasking, when used with compatible programs such as PowerNET, also by Dragonware.

PowerDOS goes first in the AUTO folder. Separate developer docs available."

Jim Ness posts his first impressions:

"Brash adventurer that I am, I have been using PowerDOS for the last 2 days, and it seems to work very well. I haven't multitasked anything yet, but as a simple fast GEMDOS replacement, it lives up to its billing. The NBM benchmark disk test shows a 183% improvement, under PowerDOS."

Do you dislike the built-in font that comes with your ST? Some people prefer it to DOS fonts, some hate it with a passion. Others would just like the ability to change the font for whatever reason.

Matt Koundakjian mentions:

"Does anyone know of an Auto program that loads in a font in place of the system font? I know of accessories such as Font Tricks but what I'd like would be to not have to go through getting the acc in place and finding the font, etc. I understand Font Tricks doesn't even save a default non-system font. I'd still like a program in shareware so I don't have to buy the Codehead's utils, just for this program. Thanks in advance."

Albert Dayes of Atari Explorer Magazine echoes one of my first thoughts:

"You can try Warp 9 screen accelerator which allows the user to change fonts in addition to the great speed increase. Warp 9 is by Codehead Technologies."

Meanwhile, the question of which monitors will do what with the FALCON are still confusing people (myself included). John Amsler asks:

"Wouldn't a multisync monitor solve the [apparent] problem: one monitor <-> color AND mono?"

Jeff at Intersect Software answers:



"The Falcon (from all I've heard) will be able to use the Atari Color monitor (SM1224) for the ST series for the LOWER resolutions. With a 640 X 200 screen they will display 256 colors instead of 4. I think you are out of luck with any of the higher (VGA) resolutions. That allows an easy route into the powerful new series for ST owners."

John Amsler asks:

"Wouldn't a[ny] multisynch monitor allow the Falcon to display 320 x 200 low AND 320 x 400 medium AND 640 x 400 high? Wouldn't the ISAC card be able to "prod" the Falcon to display 1024 x 768? After all, that's its "raison d'être!"

Ron Luks asks:

"Isn't the fact that a specific resolution is "interlaced" or "non-interlaced" a function of the computer rather than the monitor?"

Jim Ness replies with an understandable explanation of what interlaced video is:

"No, the horizontal scan speed is the most important factor in whether or not you have to use interlaced video. If the screen is refreshed every 1/60th of a second, the video system has to be able to draw that fast. The horizontal scan must be fast enough, in this case, to draw 480 rows of pixels, before 1/60th of a second has passed.

If it cannot do this, then it draws all the odd numbered rows first, then goes back for the even numbered rows, interlacing the new scans in between the previous scans. The effects is that the entire screen is only drawn once every 1/30th of a second, and the flicker effect is very noticeable.

The SC1224 has a very slow horizontal scan rate, so high vertical rez requires interlaced video. I suppose that for graphics, it is no problem, but for text it is undesirable. And, realistically, 640x200 is okay for text. The problem with it is that the SC1224 has a very high dot size, so even at 640x200, you get some blurriness. If my 640x200 image were sharper, it would be as comfortable as the SM124's 640x400 mono."

John Amsler also asks about the FALCON's memory modules:

"Are these proprietary memory boards going to be available by Atari --or whomever--at the same time the Falcon is released? I lived with

a 1 Mb 1040 from 1986 to 1990; I'd hate to have to buy a Falcon and then wait a year for the RAM upgrades to come out!"

Sysop Bob Retelle tells John:

"Unfortunately those are all unknowns at this time.. Are these proprietary memory boards going to be available by Atari --or whomever--at the same time the Falcon is released? I lived with a 1 Mb 1040 from 1986 to 1990; I'd hate to have to buy a Falcon and then wait a year for the RAM upgrades to come out!"

John Amsler tells Bob:

"Yes, a 1 Mb Falcon would be a serious disappointment ... and not being able to get the RAM upgrade board for several months would be a first-order aggravation.

Just out of curiosity, is it reasonable for the public at large, like me, to "assume" that people like Dave Small, Jim Allen, the Codeheads, the guys at Double Click, etc., have already had a few Falcons "loaned" to them by Atari so they can, you know, "tinker?"

Sysop Ron Luks tells John:

"Some of the people you mention have Falcons, some don't. I know that Atari is making Falcons available to developers as fast as they can. I'm pretty sure that the memory cards will be one of the first accessories made available, but you can pin down Bill Rehbock at the upcoming CO for a definite answer."

Jim Ness adds to Ron's reply:

"Many US devs - and most overseas devs - do have Falcons right now. There were limited numbers of machines, so not everyone got one. Atari tried to determine which devs had products which could specifically take advantage of Falcon features, and got the machines to them.

For instance, the Falcon cannot use the current Gadgets by Small GCR. So, naturally, they'd want to get one to Dave Small, so he could see about getting around that problem.

On the other hand, the Codeheads got left out. Those Codehead products which are large, exotic and graphics (GDOS) intensive originate in Europe, and their authors DID get machines. The

Codeheads will get theirs in the next batch. There has been a lot of discussion about dev machines. It looks as though the next batch will catch everyone who really needs one."

On the subject of memory boards and pricing, Jim Ness later posts:

"Well, we KNOW that they are building 14meg boards, since these are what they are offering to needy developers, in the recently Bill Rehbock message. And, they have advertised the price for 1meg and 4meg machines, in US dollars, so I hope that means those two sizes will also be available. By the way, they also advertised the German price for 14meg machines, and if you use the same ratio of 14meg to 4meg pricing, the US 14meg should sell for \$1995."

From the Atari Arts Forum  
=====

Laurie Brimmer asks about graphics conversion:

"Anyone know how to convert atari art files ie neo,degas to work on Corel Draw for the ibm pc?"

Albert Dayes of Atari Explorer Magazine tells Laurie:

"The easiest way would be to convert neo, degas to GIF format and then there should be several programs on the IBM that can convert it to the format the corel draw uses. You can also contact corel on CIS too."

Laurie asks Albert:

"Thanks for the help, however there is one more problem, how do you convert degas/neo picture files to GIF. Is there any shareware software?"

Albert replies:

"There should be some files in this forum that can convert neo and degas files to GIF. If not ... I think there is a desk accessory that

will take GIF pictures of the screen that you can save to a file. So you could display the picture on the Atari and then capture it to GIF format. Someone will hopefully jump into this conversation and give us more specifics on how this would work."

Sysop Keith Joins comes up with a slightly different conversion route and asks Laurie:

"Can Corel handle TIFF format? If so there is a MS-DOS program that will convert neo and degas pics to TIFF."

Don Kyte tells us:

"I'm trying to write a GFX file converter program using a 24 bit intermediate format, and Spectrum 512 is one of the formats I'd like to include. Does anyone have details of this file format, or can tell me where I can get this information? I can then convert Spectrum files to 24 bit RGB and hence to some other format such as GIF, TIFF, etc."

Sysop Bob Retelle tells Don:

"I think we have the Spectrum file formats in our software library here... I don't remember the filenames, but checking with the Atari File Finder with a keyword of SPECTRUM should turn them up for you."

From the Atari Vendors Forum  
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Jody Golick asks Charles F. Johnson of CodeHead Technologies about a problem that cropped up while using G+Callig (the version of G+Plus, the GDOS replacement from CodeHead, that is shipped with the Calligrapher Word Processor) with Notator. She tells Charles:

"With G+CALLIG installed, the fonts in Notator don't work properly. Notator docs are no help. G+CALLIG is delivered undocumented. So I have to ask you. Though I'd prefer to read the docs first and pester you only when I'm deeply mired."

Charles replies:

"I'm not very familiar with Notator, so I don't know how it uses GDOS for its fonts, but your trouble probably has something to do with your ASSIGN.SYS file. Chances are that when you install Notator, it creates an ASSIGN.SYS file for itself containing the names of the fonts it uses. See if you find such an ASSIGN.SYS file on any of your Notator disks; you'll probably have to boot up with that ASSIGN.SYS in the root directory of your boot drive when you use Notator."

Rob Rasmussen asks about Superbase, the database. He tells us:

"I have some questions on the File Definition and the formats for fields. First, in a text field I can choose upper or lower case, or capitalize. With capitalize, it only lets me have the first word capitalized. What if I wanted a person's first and last names to be included in a field? Or if the field was for song titles, where certain words are capitalized? Mixed upper and lower case would be great. In the examples in the manual, first and last names were in different fields, but I may not want it this way. Is it possible to define a field to accept numbers\_and\_ text? An item like "215 Blue" or "215 b", where in my case, they don't need to be separated in different fields."

Patrick Long tells Rob:

"You can define a field as "text" and it will accept alphanumeric characters. That is the most common, and useful type of field. You were asking about a text field that will capitalize each word. No, you can't do that. It would be easier to just define the field as lowercase text, and type it in with capitalized words, like an ordinary word processor. It will accept the upper case letters. It is a great programme, although I have Professional. I started on Personal II."

Rob replies to Patrick:

"Thanks for your reply. I now see that I can have text and numbers in a field, but I can't get it to allow Capitalized words when the text field is defined as lower case. Any upper case letters are converted to lower when entering a new record. You said "like an ordinary word processor." Is that what I have to use to edit the text? If so, maybe I should stick to every word being capped instead.

I'm up to chapter 9 in the manual, the part about external text and picture files. There doesn't seem to be a "Help" file on the disk which the manual uses as an example of how external works. I take it a different external text or pic can be used with each record in a file if needed. This is all very interesting. I did read the section on Query, and it's a bit overwhelming, so it may take some time. The tutorials for the earlier sections were very helpful, but so far I've seen none for Query.

The Key Lookup feature is a little foggy for me. Why is this needed? I thought selecting an index was the way to find info by field in a certain order.

What good is Validation? If entered data is in the wrong format, why wouldn't SB just give you an error message, since you already defined the file/fields?"

Patrick answers Rob:

"I wouldn't worry about external files for now. I have never used them, and unless you are into cataloging pictures, or extensive notes, you likely won't need it just yet. About text fields. Don't make the field anything. Just leave it unmodified. By that I mean that you don't make it uppercase, or lower case, or capitalized. Just plain old text. It will then accept both upper and lower, and will not change them on accepting your input. Yes, the query is heavy, but you will find that it is simply great. I find it very flexible, and a great way to work things. I was going to say that chapter eleven is good for queries, but that is in the Professional book. I have to travel this coming week, but I will see if I can dig up the Personal manual, and go over it again.

Validation is a real asset in many cases. For example, you may have a field that you have defined as a 'date' field. Validation will allow you to limit the dates you can enter. You could, for example, set a validation formula that will only allow you to enter dates between January 1, 1992 and December 31, 1992. Another example would be a numeric field that you want to enter a percentage into. You only want these percentages to be within a certain range. A validation formula would do that for you."

Well folks, I'm running over my allotted space, so I'm going to have to close here. Tune in again next week to hear what they are saying when...

People are Talking.

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THE ATARI PORTFOLIO FORUM  
\*\*\*\*\*

On CompuServe!

by Judith Hamner 72257,271

It's nice to be back after being absent due to Hurricane Andrew and other more personal disasters the past few weeks. Many of our forum members recently visited the Connecticut AtariFest and report that there was considerable interest in the Portfolio. Sysop BJ Gleason has also passed another major milestone on the way to his PhD. Congratulations, BJ.

BJ Gleason has uploaded a series of files containing debuggers based on the Monitor program from Tim Paterson's "Undocumented DOS". SMONPC.ZIP can send the output to the serial port. It runs on either the Port or PC and is formatted to fit on the Portfolio's screen. SMON.ZIP is the Portfolio version.

PMON.ZIP is modified to fit the Portfolio's display.

MORTGA.BAS is a mortgage loan comparison program. Requires basic.

ZODIAC.BAS is another basic program. This one will compute your star sign. Pbasic is also available in the forum libraries.

Two new issues of Portable Addition are now available. PA11.TXT and PA12.TXT contain issues 11 and 12.

Kevin Andrews has a nifty new program to allow entry of your financial transactions for later transfer to Quicken or other PC program. It supports multiple accounts, category and class names and split transactions.

TMW20.ZIP is a demo version of a new release of TMW. TMW is a utility offering easier access to Portfolio diary files.

===== IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS =====

Place Your Atari Falcon030 Developer Machine Order Now

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Atari is now taking commercial-level developer orders for the production-level Atari Falcon030. These developer machines will be shipped with 14MB of RAM and a 65MB harddisk. Delivery is expected to be sometime during the month of September. This offer is open only to Commercial-Tier Developers. Please contact Gail Bacani at 408-745-2022 or myself at 408-745-2082 for pricing and shipping details. Please try to have your order in by September 4th.

Fall Comdex Exhibition Space Available

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Developers interested in exhibiting at Fall Comdex in Las Vegas (November 16th - 29th) should contact me via e-mail or fax (408-745-2083) before September 4th. Atari will be exhibiting in the Sands Convention Center. Developers will be required to set up their stations on Sunday, November 15th beginning at 11:00AM. There are approximately 30 stations available.

Please be sure to include:

- 1) Complete company name.
- 2) A description of what you intend to show.
- 3) Your equipment requirements.
- 4) Current company phone and fax numbers.
- 5) Evening phone number where you may be reached.

-Bill Rehbock, Director of Application Software-

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#### IMPORTANT NOTICE!

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STReport International Online Magazine is available every week in the ST Advantage on DELPHI. STReport readers are invited to join DELPHI and become a part of the friendly community of Atari enthusiasts there.

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: IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:  
DELPHI INTRODUCES THE 10/4 PLAN.

Effective July 1, 1992, all Basic Plan members will be upgraded to the 10/4 Plan and receive 4 hours of usage each month for only \$10! For full details, type GO USING RATES. SprintNet home time to begin at 6:00 p.m.! Effective July 1, 1992, you may access DELPHI via SprintNet beginning at 6:00 p.m. local time without incurring a telecom surcharge. To find the SprintNet node nearest you, type GO USING ACCESS.

Try DELPHI for \$1 an hour!

For a limited time, you can become a trial member of DELPHI, and receive 5 hours of evening and weekend access during this month for only \$5. If you're not satisfied, simply cancel your account before the end of the calendar month with no further obligation. If you keep your account active, you will automatically be enrolled in DELPHI's 10/4 Basic Plan, where you can use up to 4 weekend and evening hours a month for a minimum \$10 monthly charge, with additional hours available at \$3.96. But hurry, this special trial offer will expire soon! To take advantage of this limited offer, use your modem to dial 1-800-365-4636. Press <RET> once or twice. When you get the Password: prompt, type IP26 and press <RET> again. Then, just answer the questions and within a day or two, you'll officially be a member of DELPHI!

DELPHI- It's getting better all the time!

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> The TREASURE CHESTS STR Feature  
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "
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NEW AVAILABLE FILES

GOODIES GALORE!  
=====

by Doyle C. Helms Jr.  
Software Editor @ STReport

Just last week I mentioned briefly in this feature about how slow the influx of software is this time of year. Well, someone must have heard me, because there was a major influx of QUALITY software this week on ALL 3 PFS networks. Two of my favorites this week were the uploads of PowerDos and the new version of ST ZIP.

FILENAME : POWERDOS  
I.D. : #25538<Genie>  
SIZE : 27520  
UPLOADER : DRAGONWARE<Genie>  
STaR Value: 5.0

PowerDos from DragonWare is touted to be a very powerful multi-tasking GEMDOS replacement for TOS. I am unable to verify the ability to multi-task, I can state that the I/O disk operations are sped up noticeably. Dragonware also has released a couple of associate files to enhance the users use of PowerDos. If you try out, I recommend that you do, so be sure to download the files ALIASDRV.LZH, PMONITOR.LZH, MEM\_SNAP.LZH and PDEXPERT.LZH. A developers kit is offered by DragonWare to help developers produce optimum multi-tasking software for PowerDos. I would have given PowerDos a higher STaR rating IF I had been able to verify the MT capabilities!

FILENAME : STZIP 2.00 [#25522<Genie>] [ST ZIP 2.0<Delphi>]  
I.D. : #25522<Genie> - ST ZIP 2.0<Delphi> - ZIP2\_0.TOS<CIS>  
SIZE : 148992  
UPLOADER : M.FARMER<Genie> - JIMCOLLINS<Delphi> - 70374,2756<CIS>  
STaR Value: 8.5

ST Zip 2.0 is a excellent upgrade to the ZIP series of archive software. Version 2.0 now includes the most current "INFLATE/DEFLATE" compression format that is just now hitting the PC arena. The user interface is almost exactly the same as previous versions. This version also includes the ability to create self-extracting ZIP archives. The feature I like best is that version 2.00 will compression MOST files to a greater value than Questers current LZH format! This is a definite must have!

FILENAME : SPIRIT EDITOR 1.1  
I.D. : #25436<Genie>  
SIZE : 43776  
UPLOADER : D.CLIFTON4<Genie>  
STaR Value: 6.7

SPIRIT EDITOR is a very nice text editor in accessory form. I have used this program many times trying to "break" it without success. If you are looking for a good text editor in accessory form, then SPIRIT EDITOR 1.1 is the one!

FILENAME : ALICE TEXT EDITOR  
I.D. : #25433<Genie> - ALICE.LZH<CIS>  
SIZE : 53504  
UPLOADER : J.WISNIEWSK2<Genie> - 76703,4061<CIS>  
STaR Value: 5.0

ALICE is a nice all around text/file editor. The program is of German origin and can be used only as a program.

FILENAME : HDFREE.ARC  
I.D. : #25509<Genie>

SIZE : 24704  
UPLOADER : DARLAH<Genie>  
STaR Value: 5.0

HDFREE is another program from Germany. This program graphically displays the amount of space used and the amount of space free on each of your hard drive partitions. HDFREE runs fine with PowerDos but when I exit I get a ERROR #6 message. No lock-up or other problems though.

FILENAME : READBOOT.ARC  
I.D. : #25507  
SIZE : 24704  
UPLOADER : DARLAH<Genie>  
STaR Value: 5.0

READBOOT program allows the user to inspect the boot sector of the user defined drive. This program is also of German origin.

FILENAME : FINDER.ARC  
I.D. : #25506  
SIZE : 25600  
UPLOADER : DARLAH<Genie>  
STaR Value: 3.0

FINDER is another German authored program that allows the user to find files via the extension. The program has some default extenders that only require "clicking" to launch. The user can also enter their own parameters for the search. GFA Basic.

FILENAME : MERLIN.ARC (from TOMMY Software)  
I.D. : #25500  
SIZE : 434688  
UPLOADER : DARLAH<Genie>  
STaR Value: 9.0

MERLIN from TOMMY software is one of the best sound editors that I have EVER seen! The options within MERLIN are astounding and multiple is an understatement! If you like to manipulate sound files, then you MUST have this file! MERLIN requires at least 1meg RAM. Some of the features include sequencer, drums, midi, keyboards and samples! Remember TOMMY Software is the authors of MegaPaint 4.0!!

FILENAME : SYSTEM BEEP  
I.D. : SYBEEP.LZH<CIS>  
SIZE : 17792  
UPLOADER : 70374,2241<CIS>  
STaR Value: 2.0

SYSTEM BEEP is a program for the AUTO folder that allows sound samples to be loaded and replace the "standard" system bell.  
NOTE: This program DOES NOT work with TOS 2.xx+

FILENAME : Auto Download for CIS

I.D. : ATDY.ARC<CIS>  
SIZE : 1539  
UPLOADER : 72037,606  
STaR Value: 4.0

ATDY is a Flash .DO file to facilitate the downloading of multiple files from CIS in the Atari forums.

FILENAME : TYPING TUTOR  
I.D. : TYPTUT.LZH<CIS>  
SIZE : 13696  
UPLOADER : 70374,2241  
STaR Value: 4.0

TYPING TUTOR is a program that allows the user to hopefully enhance his/her typing skills. Color recommended.

FILENAME : MISTY  
I.D. : MISTY.LZH<CIS>  
SIZE : 62080  
UPLOADER : 70374,2241  
STaR Value: UNRated

MISTY is an extension to STOS Basic that adds 19 powerful new commands. Unable to verify due to lack of STOS Basic.

FILENAME : DISK KIT ACCESSORY  
I.D. : DISKIT.LZH<CIS>  
SIZE : 13824  
UPLOADER : 70374,2241  
STaR Value: 2.0

DISKIT is an accessory that is similar in function to MultiFile(CodeHead). Disk functions such as format, delete and others is where the similarities end. I experienced screen garbage while using this program. In other words, the program did not appear to "clean-up" after itself very well.

FILENAME : DANADESK  
I.D. : DANADESK.LZH<Delphi>  
SIZE : 71332  
UPLOADER : TRAHERNE  
STaR Value: 2.0

DANADESK is an almost duplicate of the TERADESK desktop replacement. If you have TOS 2.xx+, then this file is of no real use to you. TOS 1.6x and below users might find this small desktop replacement useful. DANADESK has some of the features of TOS 2.xx+.

FILENAME : SPC 3375 NEW SPC VIEWER  
I.D. : SPC\_3375<Delphi>  
SIZE : 13696  
UPLOADER : BRYEDEWAARD  
STaR Value: 7.0

SPC3375 from DMJ software is not fully STe compatible. Also works on an ST.

FILENAME : MASKER  
I.D. : #25488<Genie>  
SIZE : 20352  
UPLOADER : W.PARKS3  
STaR Value: 7.5

MASKER from Dr. Bob is a MVG module that allows the user to "mask" out certain pixels in order to lighten the image. The "lightening" is user definable. Along with MASKER is a another small module called BORDER. The BORDER module will put a 3 pixel border around your image in a frame type outline.

FILENAME : CAL 6.3  
I.D. : CAL.LZH<CIS>  
SIZE : 95600  
UPLOADER : 76703,4061  
STaR Value: 8.5

CALendar 6.3 is another great update for the outstanding CALendar accessory program. This program serves just about any need when it comes to scheduling dates and events. This program is continually updated and improved. A must have!

C63UPG.LZH is an update package for present CAL 6.2x users.

C63NEW.TXT is a text file listing the changes in CAL 6.3

C63FIL.TXT is a file explaining the CAL external file format.

FILENAME : EdHAK PATCH  
I.D. : EDPAT.LZH<CIS> - #25420<Genie>  
SIZE : 42624  
UPLOADER : 73047,600<CIS> - C.HARVEY<Genie>  
STaR Value: UNRated

EdHak Patch program patches 2.3x to 2.36. Unable to verify value to due lack of EdHak program.

That about covers the highlights of the program type uploads for this week. Let's take a quick look at some of the graphic picture files for this week:

R.LEVY8 on GENie uploaded several well done 3D2 (CAD 3D2) graphic files. They are: STAIRS(#25494), FENCES(#25493), ALTAR(#25492) and GUITAR(#25491). S.FARWIG also of GENie uploaded ALADDIN(#25485) and IKON\_3(#25486) SPC pictures. B.REHBOCK uploaded MESSE\_A and MESSE\_B 256 color GIF pictures from the Dusseldorf Atari show recently held in Germany. Thanks Bob! DARLAH of GENie uploaded a very nice IMG file containing the alphabet in a very artistic manner. These IMG's would be a great addition to any DTP need. T.GIRSCH of GENie uploaded some very nice TINY&SPC files in a single file. T.GIRSCH shows that 512 color SPC pics CAN be converted rather nicely to 16 color TINY pics!



- o access to the STE 4096 color palette
- o use of all three ST screen resolutions (on one VGA monitor)
- o total compatibility, runs most major software such as:
  - ~ Calamus                      ~ PageStream
  - ~ Degas                        ~ Sierra graphic adventures
  - ~ Flash                        ~ Sim City
  - ~ GDOS/G+Plus                ~ Tempus 2
  - ~ HotWire                      ~ Warp 9
  - ~ LDW Power                  ~ Word Writer
  - and thousands more...
- o printing from any ST program (including Calamus or PageStream)
- o access to all ST disks (including TOS 1.0 and Twisted disks)
- o access to hard drives
- o in fact, you'll be able to share your PC's disk drives, hard drives, printer, monitor... there's no need for having duplicate equipment if you don't need it
- o Windows compatible
- o easy installation, all you need is a screwdriver

All of Gemulator's incredible features will be demo'ed by Gemulator creator, Darek Mihocka, at the Glendale Atarifest (September 12th and 13th).

#### GEMULATOR TESTED

-----

Gemulator has been thoroughly tested on a variety of equipment including 386 machines, laptops (portable ST's are now a reality, even though Atari has stopped production of the ST portable Stacy), large screen monitors, 486 33 and 50 MHz machines, and with hundreds of software titles. The minimum requirement is a 386 DOS compatible with 4 megabytes. On 486 machines Gemulator will emulate an ST at full speed (equal to the speed of a standard stock 1040 ST) or faster (our test computer -- a 486 33 MHz with VRAM II Ergo video card ran approximately 30% quicker than a standard 1040). On 386 machines Gemulator will emulate an ST slower than full speed; however, Warp 9 may be used to significantly boost performance. We are in the process of acquiring a 66 MHz machine for testing, but we anticipate at minimum a speed quicker than the Mega STe.

#### OUR GOAL

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Is there a reason why we're doing this? Aside from profit, which because of our price reduction is a moot point, we do have a primary reason for offering Gemulator: to expand the Atari market. When Darek first came to us, we saw this as a perfect opportunity. We don't have to wait for Atari do their thing (advertise, expand, etc.) Now you, the user, have that power. By giving DOS clone users the opportunity to run

ST software (and invest money into ST manufacturers), the ST market will expand. Money is the most powerful tool (money talks) and it'll be telling ST developers that the market is growing, they'll make more software, and then things will finally take off for ST users. So help us achieve our goal to expand the market, buy a Gemulator board, and get others to buy one too.

SPECIAL OFFER

If you send in your order with payment (MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO PMC) postmarked by September 14, 1992, you'll receive a special price of \$199.95. You can also FAX your order with Visa/MasterCard number and expiration date. Either way, add \$15 for Insured UPS 2nd Day Air shipping/handling (if you reside outside of the USA, call for shipping price). This price is a special offered to the hundreds of people that have already pre-ordered and has been made in dedication to their tremendous support. This special discount will also be available to users at the Glendale Atari show. After September 14, 1992, Gemulator will be available directly from PMC and at finer computer dealers near you for \$299.95. Demonstration videos are available for \$10, and information brochures are free.

For further information contact:

Purple Mountain Computers, Inc.  
15600 NE 8th St. Ste. A3-412  
Bellevue, WA 98008

```
206.747.1519: voice/fax
```

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      PMC.INC      : GENie
72567,302: CompuServe

```

```
> STORM EXPLAINED! STR InfoFile          At LAST!  INFO about STORM!
  ~~~~~
```

For Immediate Release

Double Click Software  
September 4, 1992

Double Click Software proudly presents...



STORM  
=====  
written by Alan Page

Many of you will recognize the name Alan Page as the author of the best selling, most popular terminal software ever written for the Atari computer, the original Flash!

Alan's innovative, solid programming made the original Flash the #1 selling telecommunications software for the Atari computer, bar none. Now Alan has devised and produced the next-generation of telecommunications for you, Storm.

If you are like us, you have been frustrated with telecommunications software released since the original Flash was introduced. Our hopes, anxiety and anticipation of promising terminal programs has often been turned into a big let-down when we finally saw that none could match the power, ease and solidity of the original Flash. In fact, most terminal software is still measured in usefulness comparative to the original Flash.

That is... UNTIL NOW!

Storm is the next step for telecommunications as only Alan Page can produce. His expertise and mastery of programming is sure to set a new standard by which all other terminal software will be measured. And only Double Click Software can bring this delight to you.

Here are some of the powerful features of STORM:

- o Works on all versions of TOS in all resolutions except LOW.  
Including the TT and the new Falcon.
- o BASIC script language. That's right! No new programmer's idea of a script language that is sort of like some programming language. This one is BASIC, with powerful extensions for telecommunications. We'll describe it a bit more later, with a brief example.
- o 100% MultiTOS compatible.
- o Everything is in a window: terminal screen, capture buffers, editors, BASICs, download/upload status, dialing status.
- o Unlimited editor and capture buffers, and BASICs (under MultiTOS)
- o Simple, yet powerful editor with full mouse control, cut and paste, full word wrap, Atari clipboard support, and more.
- o Capture buffer keeps capturing even if you are not in the terminal window. This means you can start your capture, and view it at your leisure without losing anything, without being in the terminal window. Heck, you can even close the terminal window!
- o Freeze the current capture buffer and start a new one at any time.
- o Multitasking - be online downloading, editing and running a BASIC program all at the same time. In fact, you can start a new copy of BASIC at any time (without MultiTOS, with MultiTOS it's better

yet!).

- o Powerful macro keys let you interpret the macro instructions as BASIC commands. You can even chain function keys, which can start a new copy of BASIC. You can even define the cursor keys!
- o Full type ahead support, with special prefix and suffix extensions, and control character pass through.
- o Simple layered Windows (tm) style menus which greatly simplify keystroke memorization for quick, easy, expert command execution.
- o Pop-up menus (with a pop-up menu command in BASIC so you can define your own as well).
- o Loadable background file transfers in X,Y,Zmodem and Compuserve's B+.
- o Background round-robin dialing with auto-logon BASIC scripts. And the size of your dial directory is completely unlimited!
- o Precise terminal emulations including Vidtex and VT100.
- o And still much more!

And now... for a brief description of Storm BASIC  
(in Alan's own words):

The BASIC interpreter is a fairly complete BASIC with special extensions for telecommunications. It was originally based on Atari 8-bit BASIC, but has been redesigned and enhanced considerably.

#### Summary of Features:

- \* String and integer variable types, plus string and integer arrays.
- \* Arrays can have a maximum of two dimensions.
- \* Integers are 32 bit integers.
- \* Full set of string functions, including string search.
- \* Runs in its own window.
- \* Event handling for timer, clipboard, and carrier detect events.
- \* Chain command to run programs in a separate interpreter. Chain level limited only by memory.
- \* Allocates all memory as needed.

BASIC runs cooperatively with the rest of the program. So you can access the editor, capture buffer, terminal screen, or whatever, while a program is running. You can even switch away in the middle of a BASIC "INPUT" statement which is waiting for input.

BASIC is very sparing of memory. All the memory it needs is allocated as needed. e.g. each line or string is allocated separately, so it is not a memory hog. Each string can (in theory) be up to 32K in size.

Here are a few examples of the more interesting BASIC commands:

String functions  
=====

These are all "Microsoft" style string functions as can be found in GW-Basic or QBASIC. "string" in the examples below can be a string, or string variable, or string function. You can nest functions quite deeply.

e.g. PRINT MID\$(LEFT\$("ALANPAGE",2)+CHR\$(ASC("A"))+RIGHT\$("NNN",1),1,4)  
Prints "ALAN"

The typical string addition and comparison functions are supported, e.g.  
'+', '=', '<>', '>=', '<=', '<' and '>' .

UCASE\$("string")  
LCASE\$("string")

These two functions return the string converted to all uppercase / lowercase respectively.

SPACE\$(n)  
Returns a string of n spaces.

INSTR([start,]"string","key")

This is a string search function. It searches "string" for substring "key" and returns the starting index of "key" in "string", or 0 for failure. 'start' is optional and is the location in the string to start at. N.B. The first location in a string is location 1. Also, no matter where you start searching in the string, INSTR always returns an index relative to the start of the string.

Example: INSTR("12345","3") and INSTR(3,"12345","3") both return 3.

SCREEN\$(linenumber)

This returns a line of text from terminal screen line 'linenumber'. The first line of the screen is 1. Trailing spaces are stripped from the line, so a blank line is returned as "".

LTRIM\$ can be used to strip leading spaces.

SCREEN\$ and INSTR should let you write very powerful scripts where you can read information off the screen and take context-sensitive actions.

Telecommunication-specific functions  
=====

I have made some attempt to be compatible with Flash for some commands.

CAPTURE ON	Turns capture on.
CAPTURE OFF	Turns capture off.
CAPTURE CLEAR	Clears the capture buffer.

Serial Port Functions

BAUD nn	Sets baud rate to nn.
---------	-----------------------

PARITY EVEN or PARITY ODD or PARITY NONE

Sets serial port parity.

SBITS 1 or SBITS 2 or SBITS 3

Sets stop bits to 1, 2, or 1.5 respectively.

STRIP ON or STRIP OFF

Sets high-bit strip feature on or off.

DTR ON

DTR OFF

These commands turn the DTR (Data Terminal Ready) signal on or off at the serial port.

CSRLIN

returns what line terminal screen cursor is on.

POS(n)

returns cursor x position, (starts at 1). 'n' is a dummy argument.

SAVE CAPTURE "filename"

Saves the capture buffer to "filename".

FSEL\$("path","filename")

Pops up the GEM file selector and returns the full filename you selected, including the full path.

ALERT(1,"[1][alert][OK]")

Lets you display a standard GEM alert box.

WAIT nn,"string"[,"string",...]

This is the most important command for automated operation. You can wait for multiple strings with a timeout value (in seconds). Basic will match characters coming in the serial port with the strings and continue with the next statement when either the string is matched, or a timeout occurs. Naturally, all program functions are enabled while the wait is in progress.

A timeout value of -1 waits forever (actually, about 60 days).

Once the WAIT statement has executed, use the WAIT(0) function to determine the result.

WAIT(0) returns 0 if there was a timeout, otherwise it returns the string number that was matched, starting at 1 for the first string. So you could use;

ON WAIT (0) GOSUB 100,200,300,etc.

Example:

10 wait 20,"Password"

20 if wait(0) then type "password"

TERM ON

TERM OFF

Turn terminal operation on and off.

KEYINPUT A\$

This statement waits for a keypress in the Terminal screen window and then puts the keypress in the specified string variable (A\$ or whatever you choose). While it's waiting for a keypress, terminal operation continues.

PROMPT\$(n)

This function takes up to n characters from before the current terminal screen cursor position and returns it as a string. Doesn't go past the beginning of the current line. Useful for getting the current prompt when automating operations.

A sample program MACRO.BAS shows how all these functions and commands work together. MACRO.BAS is a recorder program that will record what you type in and the associated prompt. It will write out a BASIC program that will play back the series of actions.

CLIPTEST.BAS  
=====

```
10 CLIP ON
20 ON CLIP(1) GOSUB 60:REM setup clip event
30 PAUSE -1:REM wait forever, or until UNDO key hit
40 END
50 REM Every time you select a filename, following subroutine is called
60 a$= RTRIM$( CLIP$):REM trash end of line
70 REM Truncate filename at "/" in case it was accidentally included.
80 x= INSTR(a$,"/"):IF x>0 THEN a$= LEFT$(a$,x-1)
90 IF a$="" THEN RETURN : ' Nothing to do!
100 TYPE "Dow ";a$;" PROTO:B"
110 WAIT 20,"computer:"
120 IF WAIT(0)=1 THEN TYPE a$
130 RETURN
```

CIS.BAS  
=====

```
10 REM CIS logon script
20 REM start by sending control-c
30 TYPE CHR$(3);
40 WAIT 20,"Name","ID","Password"
50 ON WAIT(0) GOSUB 100,200,300
60 IF WAIT(0) THEN 40 ELSE 30
100 TYPE "CIS":RETURN
200 TYPE "70000,0000":RETURN
300 TYPE "my.password":POP :REM "POP" pops return stack
400 PRINT "Done!"
```

\\\\*///

Well, that's enough for now. You can catch a glimpse of STORM at the Glendale Atarifest by dropping by the GENie booth. Darlah Potechin will be using STORM to demonstrate GENie.

STORM will make landfall on December 7, 1992 and will have a special introductory price of \$59.95 until December 31, 1992. You can order your copy today, and get it before it hits the stores!

On January 1, 1993 the price goes up to \$74.95.

We accept cash, checks, money orders, MasterCard and VISA.

Outside the US orders: NO PERSONAL CHECKS.

Include \$3 for shipping anywhere in the world (special offer only).  
Include \$10 for overnight shipping in North America (special offer only).

Double Click Software  
PO Box 741206  
Houston, Texas 77274-1206

Phone: (713) 977-6520

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:HOW TO GET YOUR OWN GENIE ACCOUNT:

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To sign up for GENie service:  
Set your communications software to Half Duplex (or Local Echo)  
Call: (with modem) 800-638-8369.  
Upon connection type HHH (RETURN after that).  
Wait for the U#= prompt.

1. Now access GENie via SprintNet and DATAPAC.....\*PHONE
2. August GENie Billing Is Complete. To Review Yours, Type:.....\*BILL
3. For SVHS, VCR or Camcorder information, just type.....VIDEO
4. Don't let the summer end...Hot Summer Days Sale Extended.....\*EVENTS
5. Weather Maps Now Online in the Science Center, type.....SCIENCE
6. Every buddy loves some buddy.....\*BUDDY
7. Find Thousands of Fulltext Articles in GENie's NewsStand.....NEWSSTAND
8. Hurry, become a member before it's too late.....SOFTCLUB
9. PICTURE THIS -- PostScript drawing shareware on the.....PSRT
10. Worldwide conference schedule in.....ASTRO
11. The Price of IBM's PS/1 Just Went Down \$500 at.....SEARS
12. A2 University returns with classes for YOU in.....A2PRO
13. Free time giveaway still going strong in.....A2
14. Hundreds of BBS Phone Numbers, All Sorted & Verified in.....MUSTANG
15. Adventure, Mystery, Romance, Science Fiction... AND MORE.....BOOKSHELF

Atari RT

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Glendale AtariFaire!  
Glendale Civic Auditorium  
1041 N. Verdugo Road, Glendale CA  
Saturday, September 12, 10-6pm  
Sunday, September 13, 10-4pm  
This major extravaganza thrills West Coast Atarians  
year after year!

Be sure to drop by the GENie booth and introduce yourself  
to Darlah, Ken, JJ, Larry, Fred and Sandy to name a few  
For more information, please see Category 11, Topic 12  
\*\*\*\*\*

= Scheduled Wednesday RTC Guests =

Have an idea for an Realtime Conference? Wish to promote a product, show

or service? Atari Roundtable Realtime Conference provides an excellent platform for announcements and discussions. Contact RTC\$, Jeff Williams [JEFF.W] for requirements and information on holding formal RTCs. Jeff also captures and edits the formal conferences and uploads them into the Atari RT's Library.

= Monday Realtime Conference =

Stop in for Monday's Desktop Publishing Realtime Conferences. Hosted by Lou Rocha with regular guests dealing with all aspects of DTP and associated topics. All conferences begin at 10:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Monday DTP conferences - Hosted by Lou Rocha [L.ROCHA1]  
and  
Nathan Potechin DMC [ISD]  
= Atari ST Help Desk =

Atari ST Roundtable holds a Sunday Help Desk to answer your questions on GENie, Atari ST Roundtable and the line of Atari computers. Stop in and ask questions or just visit the Atari RT staff and users. The Help Desk starts at 7:00 pm EST Sunday on page 475;2.

Type: XTX99587,CPUREPT then, hit RETURN.

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> The Flip Side STR Feature            "...a different viewpoint..."  
  "\*\*\*\*\*"

A LITTLE OF THIS, A LITTLE OF THAT  
=====

by Michael Lee

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Some firsthand follow up information from Duesseldorf show - Cat 11,  
Topic 17, Msgs 24-53 - from the ST Roundtable on Genie...

From Nathan Potechin [DMC Publishing]....

I'm back. Let's see what I can recall off the top of my head. :-)

The layout was approximately the same as last year. However, in almost all cases, the size of the actual booths were reduced. Atari had their identical center floor layout as they've had for years already BUT, this year is was definitely NOT as busy as previous years, in this area.

The largest "DRAW" at the show, was this huge monitor bank. It was one of those setups with about 60 or so, 19" monitors all stacked together, each showing a part of the screen. There was an amazing Video shown throughout the shown on this wall of vision. It really was excellent. It could even be used as a commercial without a doubt and certainly it is a must for all Atari Dealers. Germany produced it for something like 40K apparently but I made a point of noticing that the German Sound Track was separate and that visually, any language could be used! Everyone that came in the door saw this video.

Close to it was the double row of Atari Falcon 030's. They were used to display games for the most part. I admit that personally I do not have much interest in the 030 model as I use the TT for the meantime until the new higher end units make their appearance

DDT had this neo Egyptian setup that featured standing Pharaohs at each end. :- ) Their dance routine was mostly an "over 18" version of that Michael Jackson tape, complete with half-naked women dancers and a fire breathing man. I was a bit surprised to see this at a family event but without a doubt, it was the second biggest draw of the show! :- ) Oh yes, they were selling Papyrus, which was about how they were perceived. Papyrus, oh them, the booth with the dancers! :- )

DMC has a few thousand square feet, including an outdoor cafe style setup, surrounded by workstations on all 4 sides. As Calamus was bundled with every ST that Atari Germany shipped for years, don't be surprised when I tell you that they truly dominated this years show. In Germany, ABSOLUTELY EVERYONE owns Calamus, either legitimately or pirated. :- ) A few new modules were shown for the first time, including an incredible MASKING module which will be a huge hit with our serious color clients.

Matrix had their usual booth, right near the front door, showing the entire lineup. Same for Bio Data, (which has thousands of installed networks). All the usual German Developers were represented. 3K, which had a huge booth last year, was in pieces this year. 3K exhibited, 3H (the Programmers that used to be at 3K) also exhibited and I understand legal papers were actually served one upon the other, at the show itself over who has the right to sell what. Perhaps Lauren, who was also at the show, can expand on this. Regardless, the 3K presence was much reduced over last year.

No question that the majority of attendees at this years show, came for the applications. As unbelievable as this may sound to you, although the games area was adequately filled, the action remained in the application areas.

Someone mentioned a 68040 board shown by a 3rd party at the show. I was told that this board was a modified Apple board, that could do a few things but was so far away from really running Atari applications that it could not be taken seriously at this time. This was not an Atari product.

Tom from ICD appeared to have done real well with his new The Link. I imagine he'll drop by here and say a few words when he gets a chance.

Toad and B.E.S.T. also exhibited side by each right beside an empty Double- Click booth. I wondered what that was all about.

I brought back the show guide. There were over 100 exhibitors. I did



not get a chance to check out even a small fraction of them but only had time to go from meeting to meeting of my own with people that I have known for years or people that I wanted to know now. :-) I could go on and on about the DMC booth :-) but figured I'd save it for the Calamus area. But I will say, whether you've ever owned or used Calamus in your life, you would have been proud to own an Atari seeing the DMC exhibit at this show! First Class!!

Ask me specific questions and probably many other things will come back to me generally speaking about the show.

Nathan @ DMC Publishing

hmmmmmm, I should mention that overall, officially, the attendance at this years show was up 10% according to Mr. Stumpf. I asked.

From Bob Brodie [Atari Corp. - Director of Communications]...

Thanks for the report. Sam Tramiel tells me that the attendance this year was 50,000. We had over 170 developers from all over the world showcasing their products at the Messe.

From Bill Rehbock [Atari Corp. - Director of Application S/W]...

We also showed "D2D", an excellent direct-to-disk recording system that uses only the built-in Falcon hardware to do Stereo 16-bit, 50kHz recording and editing. We also showed a DSP demo that allowed us to apply flange, echo, reverb, and delay to audio from a microphone connected to the F030's input. Digital Arts (the programming team that brought us Retouche CD) also previewed a new true-color image editing application. HiSoft showed a wonderful true-color paint package. Eurosoft was around on the Falcon stand showing a Falcon version of their Paint package, Studio Effects.

The main demo started with a light show and smoke coming from a 18 foot tall pyramid/volcano, controlled by a MegaSTE via MIDI and sequencing software. The MegaSTE was responsible for all show control, including the digital-control spots. As the 1st phase of the light show ended, the tape kicked in with some historic Atari footage describing the technological innovations that Atari computers have had since '85. It ends with the Falcon030 and a real Falcon displayed flying down. Several high-tech shots panning across the ports on the back come next, then inside as the voice-over continues talking about the machine and its uses.

After the video tape, there was a series of Falcon030 video and audio demos showing the true-color overscan capabilities, the direct-to-disk recording, and the NewDesk desktop features such as color animated icons, and 3D buttons and gadgets.

At one point in time, there were representatives of ever European hacker/demo group around the stage, it was really crowded. Many questions were asked and answered. I think we'll be seeing some very awesome stuff in quite a short time.

The video was intentionally designed so that it will be easily localized for word-wide usage. People here in North America will definitely have a chance to see it.

All-in-all a good time was had by all. It was a very successful roll-

out for us and we intend to keep up the pace.

Question from Dorothy Brumleve [Kidprgs]...

Nathan, thanks for the report. Could you peek in that show program and see if GFA had a booth this year? They didn't show last year, but I heard they had a new version and would debut it at the Messe.

Answer from Nathan Potechin [DMC Publishing]...

I didn't see GFA Dorothy. They are not listed in the show guide.

Thanks for the input on the Video Bill. Like I said, it was a great visual treat and easily transformed into an English version that would do well being made available everywhere, even packaged with the Falcon as Wayne suggested.

Bill, as you undoubtedly spent the entire show meeting with software related people, perhaps you'd share with us the impressions that you got overall.

Personally I got the impression that the Atari Falcon 030 shown at the show was great for midi, multi-media to some extent and games. Serious applications such as Calamus SL will remain on the TT platform until the Falcon 040 arrives for a great many reasons

Question from Darlah Potechin [Atari RT Sysop]...

What about new entry companies? Did you see any that would interest the North American market? New products??

Answer from Nathan Potechin [DMC Publishing]...

Again, perhaps Bill would be better suited to discuss this on a non-biased basis. I have picked up a few new products for DMC including Photo Art, originally developed by Eurovision and an amazing hi-end Sign Cutting program. More on these and others at a later date. Bill mentioned Digital Arts earlier. That is Gunther Kreidl formerly from 3K who exhibited in the H3 booth, not 3H as I indicated earlier. To many 3's. :-)) He had a few new programs but, as I mentioned, at least one of them is currently in litigation so I stayed clear.

More from Bill Rehbock [Atari Corp. - Director of Application S/W]...

...regarding the D2D application that was shown... it is our intent to have something like this that will offer the user immediate gratification and the ability to make his/her friends sound like Munchkins right off the shelf.

There were many new applications that were geared-up for Falcon. Among them were new color versions of the products from Trade-It (Avant Vector and Repro Studio) and Shift (Arabesque & Convector). I certainly hope to see these products in the U.S. from their respective representatives. InShape from Ronald Christensen also made its debut. It

is a very slick 3D modeler that can import .3D2 files. InShape also does Keyframe rendering with ray tracing. It supports a wide variety of texture mapping, too. It saves out animations as a series of 24-bit proprietary-format files, but it comes with a utility to convert them into .TIF's. The software is in English and they are looking for

distribution. (There are a few drawbacks to the program, such as poor direct- to-screen drawing that makes it unusable under MultiTOS.)

Let's see, what else... Compo was showing a color version of That's Write, and the new Modules for Calamus SL look fantastic. The Calamus Multimedia Publishing system (complete with SCSI Frame grabber) was shown and wowing the crowd. Many people attended the Motorola 56K DSP seminars that were held.

Yes, the Falcon030's official colors are lighter grey with dark grey keys with white legends.

One of the more interesting booths is always the VHF Computer booth. They have a product called Platon which is a complete multi-layer printer circuit board design system. It handles schematic input, auto routing, and creation of Gerber and Drilldata files. They had their prototyping system creating prototype boards with a XYZ drilling machine. (This product is also available in English:-)

I'm sure that I'll recall more as the week goes on.

From Nathan Potechin [DMC]...

I was hoping to read some more posts from other attendees from North America. Let's see what I can add without boring anyone.

I spent almost all of my time in the incredible DMC booth and I do not say that because I am DMC. :-) It really was a Comdex level booth, including a sidewalk cafe setting surrounded by real serious work-stations. I enjoyed a coffee there with such notables as P. D. Patel of Mid-Cities Computer from the Los Angeles area, an excellent Atari Dealer, Ron Smith, the person currently employed to advise the Tramiels at the highest levels, a M. Laurent from Epigraf in France who was proudly displaying Redacteur 4 (real serious stuff), the Atari Reps in such interesting places as Hungary and Croatia, who also represent products such as Calamus and DynaCADD etc.. I drank a great deal of coffee in fact. :-) Alvin Stumpf was his usual charming self. We exchanged a few jokes over the entertainment to be found at a German Atari Show. (You had to be there to really appreciate that comment and no, I didn't bring back pictures.) :-)

I also spent time with most everyone exhibiting within the DMC booth. I have brought back a few new products, all high end and we will play with them in-house for a bit before we make any firm decisions. One workstation was using an Ultrasetter. Another had a Shinko 300 dpi continuous tone dye sublimation printer. A third had the HCS printer that really is excellent. A fourth used the Spectrastar 300 dpi thermal transfer printer. A fifth used a D size plotter and output these incredibly sophisticated images, cut out of vinyl etc... You get the idea.

Right across from DMC was TMS showing off their Cranach Studio and wondering when we'd finish the English manual for them. It is real overdue and needs to be completed. (Sigh)

CRP showed off DynaCADD and their Digitizer Tablet and actually sold thousands of dollars worth of product, which isn't so tough when DynaCADD is involved. DMC also actually sold product at a show for the very first time and sold serious tonnage. Their new Mask module, not yet in English, sells for 800 DM. They sold 50 packages at the show!

I saw this full sized VAN in one booth, with a real elaborate painting on it. It was the backdrop for an outfit using their Atari to create silk screens for T Shirts which they did and offered for sale at the show.

I had a nice visit with Manfred from Makro CDE, Jim Allen's German representatives for the Tiny Turbo, T25's and TURBO 030. He appeared to be doing a great deal of business as well.

As I mentioned previously, I perceived a great deal more interest in the higher end applications this year, at this show, compared to last year at the same show.

If anyone would care to ask a specific question, please ask. It will most probably prompt a recollection I've forgotten. :-)

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From Lee @ Lexicor - Cat. 11, Topic 12, Msg 147 - from the ST Roundtable on Genie...

At this years Glendale show we will be demonstrating two new things never seen on the ATARI before.

First: We will be demonstrating some interesting Video connections between the ATARI and the Silicon graphics Workstation. You will see Atari platform operating in a window of the SGI doing classic ATARI animations. These in turn will be seen on a Full screen display of our trusty ol'e SC1224 in full 24Bit color.

Second, we will be showing MonaLisa for the first time in Public. You can watch as some of the many wonderful color displays seen in Lexicor ads are worked on be for your very eyes.

You will be able to see much of this artwork displayed on Lexicor's 24 Bit leonardo card (installed in the TT).

You will see realtime animations with sound played from RAM of the famous T2 trailers- This is a must see demo.

Lexicor will be demonstrating the power and impact of MultiMedia on computer systems, You will see for the first time what some of the real potential of the common ol'e ATARI ST & Megas can do. We will also have the Falcon on display to demonstrate a few of its capabilities as well.

There will be plenty of color fliers and a new Color Lexicor News Letter available as well.

You may see a few new releases hiding in our booth as well.

Animation, Music, Color and much more.....at the LEXICOR Booth, Glendale!

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From V.VALENTI about a new Atari Catalog - Cat. 12, Topic 3, Msgs 1 & 3 - from the ST Roundtable on Genie...

A NEW ATARI CATALOG

A new Atari software catalog will be introduced this winter. It will have a wide variety of new-released programs to choose from. The first issue will be distributed FREE to any Atari user. If you wish to receive this FREE issue, just leave your name and full address in my mail box, V.VALENTI.

ATTENTION PROGRAMMERS!!

There is still space available in this catalog for programs in the areas of Entertainment, Education, Business, and Utilities/Programming tools. If you have developed a program, and would like it to be included in this catalog. Leave your name, address, and phone number along with a brief description of your program; and we will contact you and send you a submission pack.

Time and Space is Limited!

The catalog will be published by JV Enterprises & will be distributed by direct mail to consumers & users groups, and will be shipped with orders from selected mail order companies.

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From WP.DAVE [Word Perfect] - Cat. 13, Topic 2, Msg. 124 - from the ST Roundtable on Genie...

!!!!!! The Competitive Trade-Up Is Back!!!!!!  
Many customers who have called with this request will be happy to know that a competitive trade-up to WordPerfect 5.1 for DOS and WordPerfect 5.1 for Windows will be available between September 1 and December 31, 1992. Customers who own a competitive DOS or Windows word processing package with a suggested retail price of at least \$395 (US)/\$479 (CAN) can trade up to either WP5.1 DOS or WP5.1 Win. The suggested retail price for the competitive trade-up is \$129 (US)/\$155 (CAN). The trade-up will be available through resellers or from WPCorp (make sure they know this is for the competitive upgrade offer).

\* \* \* \* \*

ALSO: for you orphaned Non-IBM/Mac users:

WordPerfect for Amiga/Apple/Atari Cross-Platform Trade-Up

Between July 1, 1992 and June 30, 1993, WordPerfect for Amiga, Apple, or Atari customers can trade up to WordPerfect for DOS, Windows, or Macintosh for \$150 (US)/\$179 (CAN), or to LetterPerfect for DOS or Macintosh for \$89 (US)/\$110 (CAN). Customers are required to relinquish their original Amiga/Apple/Atari license number in writing and provide proof of ownership (such as original diskettes or certificate of license). Customers interested in this offer should call Angie Williams at (801)222-2034, or they can write to:

WordPerfect Corporation  
Attn: Angie Williams  
Mail Stop J190  
1555 N. Technology Way  
Orem, UT 84057

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Question by Ed Krimen - Cat. 14, Topic 5, Msgs 94 & 95 - from the ST Roundtable on Genie...

Anyone know if Michtron is still supporting Tempus, or if Michtron is still around at all? Someone on Usenet said that Tempus 2.12 works on the TT, and I'd like to upgrade. If they're still around, anyone have their number?

Answer from Dorothy Brumleve [Kidprgs]...

Ed, MichTron is still around but under new management:

Jim Dorsman - President  
Michtron  
3201 Drummond Plaza  
Newark, DE 19711  
302-454-7946

I don't know if they support Tempus, but I'm sure they can tell you.

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SLM804 question from Garth Wood - Cat. 14, Topic 11, Msgs 179-182 - from the ST Roundtable on Genie...

I've been the proud and happy owner of an SLM804 for about two and one-half years now, but there's something I recently realized I needed to know about the machine: what, if any, types of transparencies can be fed through the SLM804 in order to make B&W overhead projector transparencies for presentations?

I know that certain brands and/or product numbers of transparencies cannot withstand the high heat of the printing process, and I'm loath to experiment with brands for two reasons -- they're expensive to buy, and I have nightmares about a transparency sheet melting against the rollers inside the printer, rendering it unusable. Does anybody know "safe" brands and/or product numbers? I'd appreciate any knowledgeable input in this regard. Thanks in advance!

Answer from Dave Flory [ST RT sysop]...

I don't remember the brand but there is a transparency product out there that specifically says it is for Laser printers. Actually anything that will work with a xerox is ok as the technology, method, temperatures, etc. is identical at the fuser part of the operation. I.e. the tone is melted onto the paper/transparency.

Answer from Gregg Anderson...

What Dave said.... just make sure whatever transparency you buy is labeled as laser/copier compatible and you should have no problems. I've not put any through my system yet (SLM-804) but we put tons of them through our Mita copier and Cannon Laser printer at work with no problems....

Answer from Robert Johnstone...

The info you are looking for is Avery and the number for the transparencies is "5182" for a 50 count or "5282" for a 20 count.

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Questions and answers about the Falcon and it's memory - Cat. 14, Topic 20, Msgs 13-24 - from the ST Roundtable on Genie...

Question from Dave Glish...

Someone asked about taking the memory board and putting sockets on it to allow one to increase the RAM as finances permit. I'm no teckie, but I doubt that if they had to use a special board, there would be enough room to add sockets.

I really wish they would have used standard SIMMs. Maybe on the MegaFalcon.

Answer from Jim Allen [Fast Tech]...

They were trying to do something more than just provide ram. The creative possibilities using the scheme they came up with are great. If they used Simms there wouldn't be the ability to do a memory/video add on, etc, etc. This is a much more flexible solution.

And all the big dealers...Toad, L+Y, etc...will be able to do their OWN memory upgrade boards cheaply, giving them good margins and you a lower price.

Question from Wayne Watson...

How is the memory boards on the Falcon laid out and what kind of Dram is used?

Is the board 'one size fits all' and you just put the desired amount of ram on it?

What kind of drams are used?

More answers from Jim Allen [Fast Tech]...

Actually a board with 32 sockets that can accept either 8 256Kx4 DIP Drams 80ns or 8 1Megx4 DIP Drams 80ns or 32 1Megx4 DIP Drams 80ns...that gives you 1, 4, or 16 (14) Megs of ram, all on one board, just plug in the chips.

Height is the prime physical constraint here, the board must fit UNDER the shielding, and SIMMs will probably be too high. it all depends on what the final production shielding is like.

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Questions from Jim Moses about the new Turboram board from Fast Tech - Cat. 4, Topic 11, Msgs 143-144 - from the ST Roundtable on Genie...

Ok...I missed it. Can you rerun the info on Turboram - cost, size, compatibility with T25, Tinyturbo, STe, MegaSTe, etc?

Answer from Jim Allen [Fast Tech]...

The TURBORAM board is an add on ram board that lets you add 8 Megabytes to the system. There are two versions, one for MegaST and one for all STE machines. When a T25 or Tiny030 accesses this ram, it will do so at a faster than normal rate. The ram looks to the system as if the







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Transcribed by R. Morrow

Since the dawn of personal computing, there has been a drive to use microcomputers for something other than words and numbers. Even at the beginning, there were graphics video boards which could draw crude pictures on the screen, and a few that could add text somewhere just outside the graphic area. However, it was Steve Wozniak and Apple that truly delivered the graphics computer into the hands of computer artists.

By 1984, computer graphics meant Macintosh. In truth, what the Mac offered was more than picture drawing on a screen-even an IBM PC could do that. Apple offered a graphics environment in which words and pictures would cohabit just as they do in the world of publishing and advertising.

Since Apple controlled the complete design, it alone knew what video would be used, what keyboard would be included, and how the mouse would work. The PC graphics people could only control the software. IBM and Compaq controlled their own hardware and were not immediately interested in the small graphics niche that Apple had carved out. Indeed, the PC world was already selling lots of iron to big business without fancy graphics.

#### WINDOWS OF OPPORTUNITY

The idea of windows was older than the Mac. At the 1983 COMDEX, several firms announced that they were developing desktop windows which would allow users to work on several applications simultaneously, which each application appearing in a different "window" on the computer screen. The Visi Corp., maker of VisiCalc, announced Visi On. Microsoft announced Windows, an extension of its MS-DOS system. Quarterdeck Software introduced Desq, a multiwindow software integrator designed to work with off-the-shelf software. And Digital Research Inc (DRI) announced a new version of its Concurrent CP/M-86 system that would include a windowing capability.

Most of this was vaporware. Microsoft went so far as to announce the \$100 end-user price for Windows and declare that more than 20 software developers had agreed to write applications for it. None of these early windows proposals included graphics icons on the desktop: The use of icons was an idea Apple picked up from Xerox and included the Lisa and, later, the Macintosh.

In 1983, DRI was suffering from its declining position as the primary supplier of personal computer operating systems. In 1981, over 90 percent of its considerable income was derived from sales of CP/M, the 8-bit operating system developed by founder Gary Kildall. In the United States, all margins melted away with the rise of the 16-bit IBM PC and Microsoft's MS-DOS system. Sales of DRI's competing CP/M-86 did hang on in Europe, however, contributing to the company's income and survival.

#### A GEM OF AN ENVIRONMENT

By 1982, DRI had moved into graphics system software with the development of the Graphics System Extension (GSX) for its advanced operating system. In 1984, the company introduced the next step, which it

called the Virtual Device Interface. By combining these graphical and operating system technologies with an icon-based graphics environment, DRI developed the Graphics Environment Manager (GEM), released in March 1985.

GEM was at once hailed as "the Macintosh on a PC," a response that immediately threw Apple's nose out of joint. Steve Jobs initiated talks with lawyers the first time he saw a GEM desktop screen which had the nerve to display "Hi!" (Macintosh's first screen displayed "Hello" when it was introduced.)

GEM was an interesting product; it was a device-independent, graphics-based applications environment that operated as an extension of DOS. It had very limited multitasking ability, but multitasking was not too important back in 1985. Anyone who and worked with the Mac could recognize the GEM screen because it had the same type of pull-down menus, window bars, sizing boxes, and horror of horrors; even a wastebasket!

Actually, what happened on the screen was entirely the work of an application called the GEM Desktop which ran under the GEM interface. Users had the option of running a GEM application without the aid of the Desktop, but there was no need, since DRI bundled a free GEM Desktop with every application.

When GEM was first introduced, GEM Draw was the only available application; within a year, however, others began to appear. DRI offered developers an excellent deal to develop GEM software so that additional development costs were almost zero. DRI also announced it would undertake to retail GEM Desktop for \$49 to end users so that smaller developers did not have to provide it. In spite of this, applications from independent developers were slow to appear.

GEM Write, one of the first, was developed by Lifetree Software from its popular Volksword word processor, but few other applications came along until 1986. Unlike the Macintosh, a user could launch DOS applications from the GEM Desktop. Most of them could be assigned icons, and there was even a "Launch DOS Commands" box. When a DOS application was started, GEM saved the Desktop and, when the DOS application ended, returned to the desktop. Many users thought this was much better than the DOS shells then available, and were willing to use GEM despite a dearth of applications.

The portability of GEM gave DRI its first big break. Jack Tramiel, the founder of Commodore, had resigned from the company and sold his stock. After taking a trip around the world, he and his sons decided to re-enter the computer business.

At the time, Warner Communications owned Atari, which had been on the verge of bankruptcy since the video game business had cooled. Warner decided that Tramiel was the man to rescue Atari, and made a deal with him to take over the company on very favorable terms. To launch the revived Atari, Tramiel wanted to bring out a new computer loaded with excellent graphics capabilities. He went to DRI and obtained GEM support for the new Motorola 68000-based computers he planned to build.

#### BEHOLD THE JACKINTOSH

With only a few months remaining until the 1985 Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas, the Atari team and DRI worked feverishly to-at the very least-build an exhibit-ready prototype. When the show first opened, no one was allowed near the cloth-covered Atari exhibit. Only after a ribbon-cutting ceremony hosted by the Governor of Nevada did Jack Tramiel

unveil what the press later called "the Jackintosh": the Atari 520 ST.

Designed to sell for \$599 with both GEM and MIDI sound, the Atari 520 ST boasted all the features of the \$2,000 Macintosh, and then some. It had a two-button mouse, pull-down menus, icons, windows that could be enlarged or reduced, and even a display that used a wastepaper basket similar to Macintosh's ash can. It also featured a MIDI interface to connect up to 16 peripherals serially and, last but not least, a hard disk interface.

The units exhibited at the show were all prototypes, made specifically and quickly for the show. They were mounted on a wall, and no one was permitted to touch them or even get too close. With Tramiel announcing that he would make 200,000 ST units a month, the possibility suddenly existed that GEM could quickly become the most important GUI in the world, and DRI could be back on top even without a PC operating system.

Of course, it never happened. No one knows how many Atari 520 STs were built because most of them were shipped to Europe, where they were sold at a much higher price. GEM attracted much interest in Europe: Apricot Computers in England decided to use GEM in its computers, while Amstrad Computers, the largest English manufacturer, bundled GEM with its line of PC compatibles sold all over the world.

#### TROUBLE IN REDMOND

Meanwhile, back in Redmond, Wash., Microsoft was having trouble getting out its own long-promised Windows system. So many shipping dates were missed that Bill Gates was forced to completely reorganize the company. At that time, it indeed seemed that DRI was coming back strong.

Unfortunately, the software developers being wooed by DRI were very fickle. They preferred to wait for Microsoft to finish Windows rather than take a chance on developing software applications for GEM.

#### LOOK AND FEEL LAWSUIT #1

Apple Computer was also reaching a boiling point over GEM, going so far as to bring a formal lawsuit. While it was obvious on examination that DRI had not used Apple's code to create its GEM environment, Apple's lawyers charged that DRI had copied "the look and feel of a Macintosh." This was the first time a "look and feel" copyright violation had been proposed. According to the lawyers, if you stood several feet away and squinted at both screens, you could not tell the difference between a Macintosh and a GEM screen—a similarity amounting to a violation of Apple's copyright.

DRI was convinced it could win in court, as the only precedence was a case between Atari and software pirates over the popular Pac Man game. No one had ever raised this particular argument, and the case could have gone either way. However, DRI knew that it could cost over \$250,000 to win the case, which it could not afford. Apple, on the other hand, was after much bigger fish. If Apple lost, or did not get a clear decision, it could also lose when it sued Microsoft and IBM over Windows. The case was therefore settled out of court.

As a result, DRI made some minor changes in the Desktop and removed the offending wastepaper basket. The delays cost DRI significant business and gave Microsoft and IBM more time to develop Windows, which was announced as the future user interface for IBM's new OS/2 operating system and the screen for all IBM user software, across all platforms.

#### NOTHING VENTURED

To make matters worse, Digital Research allowed the most effective piece of GEM software to walk out the door. Three DRI employees came up with an idea for a graphics publishing package that would allow page makeup to be executed on the computer. They took the idea to John Rowley, president of DRI, for consideration. Aiming to get DRI out of the application software business in order to concentrate on GEM and operating systems, Rowley turned it down.

The three men quit and formed Ventura Software (later sold to Xerox), which produced the GEM-based Ventura Publisher. This system sold over 200,000 copies from 1986 to 1989 (when it was updated) and was the best-selling software system in 1987. DRI finally came out with its own desktop publishing system, GEM Publisher, in 1987. It had many of the same features as Ventura, but was a lower-cost package selling for half the price.

Eventually, DRI introduced a line of GEM applications that included GEM Paint, GEM Wordchart, GEM Graph, and GEM Artline. They also bundled Paint, Graph, and Write in the GEM Collection package, as well as a desktop presentation package called GEM Presentation Team.

A user could buy any one package and get the latest copy of GEM Desktop in the same box. Most of the GEM software family sold for under \$200, and were primarily bought by previous GEM owners. The system did not take off the way its Microsoft rivals had, mainly because DRI did not know how to market to end users, and did not have the money to do so. In Europe, however, the GEM software did very well and generated much of the company's income.

Although in 1989, there were over 100 GEM application vendors, many of them only offered drivers to use their non-GEM software from the Desktop and a few GEM versions of MS-DOS applications. Ventura Publisher remained the outstanding GEM application, and even this was later converted to run under Windows using PostScript. The Ventura debacle and the fact that DRI was \$10.5 million in debt caused Gary Kildall in January 1987 to replace Rowley with Dick Williams-a veteran of IBM.

Williams managed to pay off the debt and put DRI in the black by promoting the operating system software DR-DOS, a lower-cost replacement for MS-DOS and commercial point-of-sale systems. However, European sales accounted for 75% of the company's sales, and Williams did not want to risk investing in GEM marketing in the US against strong Microsoft Windows and Apple Macintosh opposition.

#### DRI GOES DRY

It cannot be said that GEM died-it just faded away from neglect and indifference. Generally, people who have it and use it find it makes a very stable platform for the whole line of GEM products.

GEM Draw, GEM Artline 1.0, GEM Write, GEM Graph, GEM Paint, and GEM Wordchart were sold to Drew A. Kaplan (DAK), the direct merchandiser. He bundles them with computers that he sells through his catalogs; recently, in order to acquire a mailing list of computer owners, he offered GEM Publisher for \$19.

The latest versions of GEM Draw, GEM Artline 2.0 and GEM Presentation Team will not be replaced when current inventory is exhausted.

Digital Research itself was sold to Novell and then merged with it.



GEMDOS cannot task-switch. That is, GEMDOS can only run one program at a time. An application must terminate (quit) before another application can be launched (ran). While tasks running under GEMDOS may launch other tasks (as in the case of a telecommunications program launching a file transfer program, or a programming shell launching a compiler), the launching task stops running, waiting for the launched task to terminate.

Imagine though, the possibilities of running more than one task at the same time! Suddenly, the concept of your computer being limited to handling a step-by-step linear series of tasks is shattered.

PowerDOS provides the ability to switch between tasks hundreds of times per second. Up to 256 tasks can run at once. PowerDOS manages the distribution of time via priority levels for individual tasks that can be set and changed so that more important tasks get a bigger slice of the pie.

WHAT POWERDOS ISN'T

PowerDOS isn't a magical multiple-GEM window multitasker. Why? PowerDOS places compatibility over bells-and-whistles.

To maintain the fullest possible compatibility with the existing base of TOS platform applications, PowerDOS adheres strongly to the GEMDOS set of rules. What that means is that programs that aren't written to take advantage of PowerDOS multitasking (or interprocess communication or memory management) won't multitask easily. These programs aren't aware of the advantages of PowerDOS - but if made aware, they can easily multitask, and significantly increase user productivity.

All legal TOS programs will run under PowerDOS - and will enjoy PowerDOS's lightning fast device I/O - but unless programs are written with PowerDOS's extensions in mind, the ability to multitask will be limited.

PowerDOS was designed with the future of TOS based machines in mind while ensuring that the previous generation of TOS software will continue to work.

#### MAKING POWERDOS WORK FOR YOU

##### PROGRAMMERS:

PowerDOS adds dozens of system calls to the GEMDOS series. These calls allow programmers to easily set up interprocess communication (Subscribe-and-Publish!), to restrict and manage memory use, to monitor the status of any task running under PowerDOS, to spawn off child processes, and most importantly to add new device drivers and commands to PowerDOS - making PowerDOS infinitely expandable.

To make your programs work with PowerDOS, contact Christopher Roberts at DragonWare Software, and ask for a PowerDOS Developers Kit.

##### NON-PROGRAMMERS:

The real beauty of PowerDOS is that it is totally transparent to the user. A user simply installs PowerDOS in the AUTO folder and realizes a tremendous increase in device I/O speed. Life is better.

More advanced users can take advantage of setting up alias drives, adding pipes, naming serial ports, and using any of the number of PowerDOS utilities now available and those still under development.

## POWERDOS - A BASE TO BUILD ON

Currently, DragonWare Software has two series of applications under development which rely on the Power of PowerDOS. The first series, Powernet, is a Local Area Network for the Atari TOS series of computers. Powernet has been shipping for several months, and is an unqualified hit among users! (Powernet is the LAN of choice in Sunnyvale!)

AtariTalk-2 is a still-under-development series of drivers for Powernet that will allow Atari TOS computers to communicate with AppleTalk and Ethernet LANs.

### WHY IS POWERDOS FREWARE?

With the advent of Atari's new Falcon computer, the market for TOS based hardware and software is ready to grow. We at DragonWare are ready to help supply TOS users with the tools to properly utilize their machines, and we can think of no other tool that could revolutionize the way that owners use their machines than PowerDOS. Hence, we have decided to make PowerDOS a freeware product. While all copyrights to PowerDOS are retained by PowerPoint Software, PowerDOS itself may be freely distributed.

There are plans for more PowerDOS goodies to be released in the near future - stand by for some exciting announcements.

DragonWare Software welcomes any inquiry, and stands ready to support any developer or user who wishes to take advantage of the Power of PowerDOS.

For inquiries:

DragonWare Software  
P.O. Box 1719  
Havre, MT 59501-1719  
(408) 265-9609  
GENie: DRAGONWARE

=====  
DragonWare Software is a member of the IAAD  
the Independent Association of Atari Developers and fully supports  
development of hardware and software to fully unleash the power of  
the entire series of TOS based computers from Atari  
=====

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All other products mentioned are copyright and/or trademark of their  
respective holders.

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> GLENDALE UPDATES STR SHOW NEWS  
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# Premier West Coast Atari Show!

GLENDALE UPDATES!  
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The show will be held Saturday and Sunday, September 12-13, 1992 at the Glendale Civic Auditorium, 1041 N. Verdugo Road, Glendale, CA. Hours are 10:00 am to 6:00 pm on Saturday and 10:00 am to 4:00 pm on Sunday. General Admission is \$6.00 per person with a two day pass costing only \$10.00.

For those of you who will be needing lodging we have made arrangements with the Burbank Hilton. Regular rates are \$119.00 per night but if you mention ATARI you will get a room for \$65.00 per night, single or double occupancy. Executive suites are also available for a per night charge of \$95.00. Reservations may be made by calling the Hilton at 800-643-7400 (in California), 800-468-3576 (inside the USA) or at 818-843-600 (outside the USA). The guaranteed reservation cut-off date is August 20th. If you are quoted another rate ask for Roy Butler, Sales Manger.

This year The Glendale Show will be holding Desk Top Publishing Classes. There will be a \$25.00 (US) fee for these hands-on classes. DMC (ISD) will be holding Beginning and Advanced classes for owners and prospective owners of Calamus SL. Classes will be held on Saturday and Sunday. Classroom size is limited. A number of people have already pre-registered. Additional registrations can be made the day of the show by going to booth #19 by 12 noon each day. The Beginning class will be on Saturday at 1 pm and the Advanced class will be on Sunday at 1 pm.

If you have any questions send mail to H.A.C.K.S., 249 N. Brand Bl.  
#321, Glendale, CA 91203 or leave GEmail to John.King.T or call John King  
Tarpinian at 818-246-7276.

It was announced by Jerry Pournelle that he would be attending the Glendale Show on Saturday 09/12/92. John k. Tarpinian has made assurances that all possible cooperation would accorded Mr. Pournelle including the ".50 cent tour".

The exhibitor list for the Glendale Show;

ATARI CORPORATION  
THE COMPUTER NETWORK  
COMPUTER SAFARI  
OREGON RESEARCH ASSOCIATES  
CLEAR THINKING  
D.A. BRUMLEVE  
SUDDEN INC  
FAIR DINKUM TECHNOLOGIES  
MICRO CREATIONS  
BRANCH ALWAYS  
MID-CITIES COMP-SOFT  
FREEZE DRIED SOFTWARE  
McDONALD & ASSOCIATES  
WINTERTREE SOFTWARE  
BEST ELECTRONICS  
JMG  
COMPO



available for the Atari ST:

#### Disk Diagnostics:

Analyzes your disks for critical errors that could lead to data loss. Complete reporting of all errors found and the affected files. Assess media integrity and map bad sectors. Assess the integrity of data on your disk with CRC and checksum validations.

#### Optimization:

Improves disk access. Defragments files and directories, consolidates free space and optimizes data locations to improve disk performance. FAST disk optimization for reading or writing. Analyzes disk fragmentation level to assess disk performance.

#### Repair:

Repairs damaged disk structure, damaged files, and maps bad sectors. Save, restore, edit critical disk information to restore even very badly damaged disks or recover crashed disks. Assessment and validation of the integrity of the recovered information.

#### Data Recovery:

The Complete Undelete. The Diamond Mirror system automatically saves critical disk information that allows you to recover deleted files. Even undelete fragmented files and subdirectories. Validate the integrity of the undeleted file. Identifies and recovers data from lost clusters and unzero's disks.

#### General Disk Management:

A wide variety of powerful disk management and information tools are available, including hard disk partitioning, copying, zeroing, wiping, etc.

Diamond Edge defines the new state of the art in disk management, diagnostics, repair, optimization, and data recovery software for the Atari ST and is accompanied by a comprehensive spiral bound manual. A full featured demo is available in file #25511.

#### Ultimate Virus Killer

-----  
There are nearly 70 types of virus prevalent on the Atari ST. With this package you can detect, destroy, and protect yourself from virus infection by all known and even unknown viruses.

Scans disks and memory for suspicious system activity. Detects even unknown viruses and calculates a viral contamination probability. Immunizes your disks against future virus attacks. 67 Viruses recognized, immunized, and destroyed. Including the dreaded "link viruses" that attach themselves to every program that runs and can destroy all your data.

Over 1000 executable boot sectors explicitly recognized and nearly 500 repairable. Regularly update to guarantee the best possible virus protection possible. The Ultimate Virus Killer is the ULTIMATE tool to protect your Atari ST from virus infection and is accompanied by a comprehensive printed manual..

Diamond Edge is available for the introductory price of only \$69.95 and will be released at the Glendale show on September 12, 1992.



Barring any errors or changes in plans this leaves exactly three spaces available in the main vendor area. WAACE is working on rearranging some of the other show activities to make more space available for vendors.

The WAACE people find this to be an extremely gratifying response. The many positive interactions that Ken has had with vendors on the phone are equally uplifting.

If your name should be on this list and it is not please contact the WAACE Vendor Coordinator right away. His name is Ken Fassler (DTACK) and he can be reached at 301-229-1886. Time is running out on advance discounts for booth space.

Keep your eyes open for additional uploads on the hotel, travel directions, banquet, and seminars.

Also, watch the online magazines, STReport, AEO, etc. for additional information.

Print ads are appearing in upcoming issues of AIM, ST Informer, and Current Notes.

Wow!! that was quite a last minute rush... Hope to see you all at the Fest...

CTSY GENie ST RT  
from Sheldon Winick of Computer Studio

I'm pleased to announce that in addition to our presence on the show floor with a double booth space, Computer STudio will also be hosting seminar sessions on both Saturday and Sunday at this year's WAACE AtariFest. Saturday's seminar will be "PROFESSIONAL CADD (Computer Aided Design and Drafting)" and Sunday's session will be "PROFESSIONAL MIDI with Cubase". Come join us for two very exciting high end professional applications on the Atari platform, and meet Computer STudio's professional staff.

WAACE Seminar - Saturday, October 10, 1992  
-----

PROFESSIONAL CADD (Computer Aided Design and Drafting)

by Sheldon Winick (Computer STudio - Asheville, NC)

Sheldon Winick, owner of Computer STudio and registered architect, will conduct a 1-hour seminar focusing on DynaCADD on Atari's TT030 Graphic Workstation. Sheldon will demonstrate the power and speed of both the hardware and software, and its' importance as a valuable productivity tool. He will do a general overview of DynaCADD, show examples of current architectural work, and discuss his reasons for choosing the Atari platform for his own CADD workstation requirements.

In addition to owning and operating Computer STudio, a full-service Atari business computer center located in Asheville, NC, Sheldon has operated his own architectural firm since 1971. He is a Registered Architect in the states of Florida, Tenn., North Carolina and Colorado, as well as holding a national NCARB architectural certificate.



- Boca Raton, FL  
-----

CIS'S RON LUKS ANNOUNCES REHBOCK CIS CONFERENCE

Announced here last week, now an update. Compuserve will host an online conference featuring Atari's Bill Rehbock in the Electronic Convention Center (GO CONVENTION). The Convention Center will feature special HALF PRICE rates for this event. It will be held on Sept. 08, 1992 at 8:30pm EDT - 5:30pm PST. The Falcon and its technological wonders are part of the conference's featured areas of discussion.

- New York City, NY  
-----

MANNY'S PETER LEVIN CLEARS THE AIR!

Last week we presented this small item;

#### MANNY'S TO DROP ATARI LINE?

According to our source, Manny's Music, a long time Atari dealer in the Big Apple is quite upset with Atari as a result of the information they received about the Falcon's disappointing holiday timetable. STR's correspondent was told; "When they were told it would be another dry Christmas all hell broke loose!" Hopefully, renewed negotiations will perhaps bring about a change of heart.

To further cover the situation and clarify some un-necessary confusion we now present;

Peter Levin, the gentleman who attended the meeting in Hartford, was contacted by STR. When the matter of their being upset with Atari was discussed, he stated he really didn't mind that fact they'd been told by Atari to expect "one or two machines before Christmas and to expect large quantities after the first of the year." When asked about dropping the Atari line, he emphatically stated that he expected Atari to keep its word on the arrival schedule given him.

He also stated he was upset with the fact they had not sent someone to the meeting with more detailed information relative to their upcoming marketing plans. Additionally, he mentioned he was indeed the focal point at the meeting in as much as he asked the most questions relative to Atari's future plans in the areas of production, marketing, advertising etc..

He also pointed out his displeasure with the manner in which Atari had described the meeting's purpose. He stated the meeting announcement was misleading in that he fully expected to be made privy to Atari's marketing plans etc.. Instead, he said, it was a simple dealer viewing of the Falcon and a vague presentation by Ron Smith. Levin pointed out that Smith had only been with Atari for two months at the time in the capacity of consultant.

Mr. Levin also expressed that he was pleased the 1040ste was "such a good seller for Manny's". We have those machines in stock and expect more shortly and since we are primarily in the music business, these machines do us just fine. Levin further expressed; I do feel the Falcon is a good

step forward for Atari as long as they deliver as promised.

- Sunnyvale, CA  
-----

TOS 4.0 -> ALL IN ONE CHIP!

TOS 4.0 for the new machines is stored in only ONE ROM! And.. it contains all the data relative to all the different countries and keyboards. Thus, it could be considered a "Universal TOS". Its now possible to configure your machine from the choices that available in ROM). A CPX will control the configuration process. Now, that's a good idea!

---

Correction;

In last week's issue the Z\*NET entry was inadvertently omitted, by the text format process, from the Glendale list of exhibitors.

\*\*\*\*\*

STReport's "EDITORIAL CARTOON"  
\*\*\*\*\*

> A "Quotable Quote"  
\*\*\*\*\*

"OH YEAH?!? - WHO SEZ SO?!?"

"The more responsibility on your shoulders the less  
room for chips..."

...THE WISE OLD OWL

\*\*\*\*\*



[illegible]

---

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Cabinet & ICD LINK Host [Hard Disk Ready] \$ TBA

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-------	-------------	----------	-------

SGN4951	51Mb	3.5"	Y	419.00
---------	------	------	---	--------

SON1096	83mb	3.5"	Y	519.00
---------	------	------	---	--------

SON2055	120mb	3.5"	Y	574.95
---------	-------	------	---	--------

SON1296	213mb	3.5"	Y	839.00
---------	-------	------	---	--------

SON4055	340mb	3.5"	Y	1310.00
---------	-------	------	---	---------

Standard "Shoebox Cabinet style is also available

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NOTICE - NOTICE - NOTICE - NOTICE

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AT&T 593, CAF Laser, DSI Laser, DTP Systems, Epson EPL-6000

Facit P6060, Fontx Syslaser, Harris3M 2006, M-Tally MT905

Microtek Turbo PS, OAS Laserpro Executive, Packard Bell 9500

TEC LB 1305, Toshiba PageLaser 6

\*\* \$41.95 shipping included \*\*

(TWO Toner Carts Incl.)

Panasonic Laser Toner Kits

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